

# ***Utah Upland Game Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes, April 10, 2007***

## **Present:**

- o Jim Gaskill
- o Dean Mitchell
- o Ernie Perkins
- o Travis Proctor
- o Steven Gaskill
- o Don Gaskill
- o John Staley
- o Dan Potts
- o Hal Smith
- o Mike Bowers
- o Chris Udy

## **Old Business:**

- a. **Walk-in access:** Expanding walk in access from the DWR Northern Region to the Central and Northeastern Regions beginning in the fall of 2007. Approval to hire on two-year and one six-month position in all three regions. Working aggressively to make this happen by the 2007 Dove season. DWR is seeing a benefit of this program likely continuing. More funding may be forthcoming from the legislature assuming a successful program continues. RAC is fully aware of this program and the feeling is that we are on the fast track.
- b. **Chukar transplants:** Actively putting together transplant priority sites. Dean wanted to make sure there was proper clearance with BLM on current transplant sites. Volunteer help will be needed to move the birds. Dean suggested that we combine lists regarding the chukar foundation. Wild vs. pen reared numbers were also discussed.

## **New Business**

- a. **Successful transfer of California quail:** Birds were moved to a myriad of sites. Jo Proctor was in a seasonal position to trap the birds. Volunteers were used to transfer the birds. A total of 834, a good winter. An estimated 350 turkeys were also moved. Dean is still trying to "nail" down accurate turkey numbers. At the next meeting a turkey report will be given from Jim & Steven Gaskill regarding their hunt.
- b. **Activity reports:**  
**Dan Potts (Salt Lake County Fish & Game Association)** reported that he is looking for a project. Available could be some semi-extended weekends. Ernie will put the group to work!  
**Hal Smith (Great Salt Lake Pheasants Forever)** will be hosting a pheasant's forever banquet at the Salt Lake Hilton on May 5, 2007. The organization is staying steady and also held a successful booth at the sportsman's expo.

**Ernie Perkins (North American Versatile Hunting Dog Association)** reported that NAHVDA has a test in May. There will be a handler's clinic in August. Twenty-four approved sites to put guzzler tanks in the Northern Region are proposed. Installing sixteen guzzlers starting in May. Found three more potential sites.

**Travis Proctor (Utah Chukar and Wildlife Foundation)** passed out a tentative budget as well as goals for the organization. Helping to install guzzlers in Box Elder County. Also looking forward to the Antelope Island project. The organization went down a little bit in membership from last year, however, he is expecting more to renew. Members at this particular time seem to be a bit frustrated.

**Dean Mitchell** is constantly trying to match groups up to work together. Mentioned were the Chukar Foundation joining efforts with Pheasants Forever as Salt Lake P.F. is looking for more on the ground projects. Ernie Perkins wondered how we could get the Central region habitat person more involved. Guzzlers were also defined as "part of habitat."

- c. **2007 Habitat fund project priorities:** There was a little over \$400,000 in project proposals for 2008. Guaranteed to have at least \$230,000. Needed approximately 180,000 of cuts across the board. Ernie did an excellent job prioritizing items. The committee did an extensive review of Ernie's proposals with agreement on nearly every proposal. A big thank you to Ernie for all the time spent prioritizing these items. It saved much time and was professionally done. There should be nearly enough money to cover most 1,2&3 priorities on the proposal. All priority 4 projects would put us over budget; most would likely be cut. Jim Gaskill suggested Vernal game farm fence should be eliminated in which the committee unanimously agreed. The committee approved the recommendations.

**Agenda Items Proposed For Next Meeting:**

1. 2007/2008 chukar study update.
2. Organization activity reports.
3. Sharp-tailed grouse survey.
4. Upland game regulation changes.

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 15, at 6:00 p.m. at the DWR State offices at 1594 W. North Temple, Salt Lake City.

Everyone is invited to attend these meetings; it's an opportunity for you to get any issues you know about onto the table.

Let us know of donations, projects, etc., made by your group, we want to publicize good activities!

If you know of other interested parties who should get copies of the minutes and who are involved in upland game organizations or programs, please get us their name. If you want to make an electronic mail input, please send it to one of the following:

- [DeanMitchell@utah.gov](mailto:DeanMitchell@utah.gov)
- [JimGaskill@weber.edu](mailto:JimGaskill@weber.edu)

Respectfully submitted,  
**Chris Udy**  
**Secretary**

**Upland Game on the Internet:**

You can get more Utah upland game information at <http://www.wildlife.utah.gov/uplandgame/> including the past minutes for this committee, news, proclamations, and information about upcoming public meetings.